Remarks

Claims 52-113 are pending in the application, and have been allowed.

Claims 52-73 and 102-113 were objected to. Specifically, it was indicated that in claim 52, line 10, claim 64, line 11, and claim 102, line 10, "FOM" was unclear. Accordingly, claims 52, 64 and 102 have been amended as set forth above to specify that FOM stands for "Figure of Merit." This is detailed in the present specification at paragraphs 303-307 of the published application (US-2004-0032698-A1).

In view of the above, withdrawal of the objection to the claims, favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: <u>SEP. 23, 7</u>00 4

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